

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE  
METHOD AND SYSTEM OF DISPATCHING SOCKS TRAFFIC

The present invention relates to a method and system for dispatching on a socks server an IP datagram originated from an application on a source device, in an Internet Protocol (IP) network comprising a plurality of socks servers, said IP datagram comprising a Source IP Address field in the IP header, a Source Port field in the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) header, and socks data. The method comprises, in a socks dispatcher, the steps of:

identifying the source device by retrieving source address in the Source IP Address field;

identifying the application on the source device by retrieving the application address in the Source Port field;

determining the application level protocol of socks data referring to a first table, the first table comprising for each socks connection identified by a source address and an application address, an application level protocol; and

selecting a socks server referring to a second table, the second table defining for each application level protocol one or a plurality of socks servers.

The step of selecting a socks server referring to a second table, comprises the further steps of:

determining the number of socks servers in the second table defined for the application level protocol of the IP datagram:

if only one socks server is defined in the second table, forwarding the IP datagram to said socks server,

if more than one socks server is defined in the

second table, forwarding the IP datagram to a socks server selected according to its capacity and the priority of the IP datagram.

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